

**THE BENTLEY
BUGLE**



COMMUNITY & CHURCH NEWS



ISSUE 97 FEBRUARY - MARCH 2024

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Email: peter.d47@hotmail.co.uk

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19 The Link, Bentley

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The Bentley Bugle is published and distributed bi-monthly on a voluntary basis for the

benefit of the local Village and Church community.

Information is published in good faith and we reserve the right to edit copy submitted.

Errors and exceptions are regretted.

Front cover - Brown Hare, Michael Bamford

If you have any suitable photos for future issues, please forward to Christine at
christine.bugle@gmail.com

COPY FOR THE APRIL - MAY 2024 ISSUE SHOULD REACH CHRISTINE BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY 20th MARCH 2024. Copy can be submitted either on paper or electronically (preferred). Please try to ensure that any copy submitted electronically is in a standard format e.g. .doc, .docx, txt, .jpg, .png, or .pdf and the preferred font is Arial 14pt. Many thanks.

Bentley Directory

PARISH, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILS

Parish Council - Chair	Marianne Munday	07808 259331
Parish Council - Clerk	Joy Scott	01206 298174
Babergh District Councillor	David Busby	07855 777147
County Councillor	Georgia Hall	07955 434445

BENTLEY ORGANISATIONS AND CLUBS

Bentley Primary School		
(Headteacher)	Jo Austin	01473 310253
(Chair Governors)	Simon Hurst simon.hurst@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk	
(Chair PTA)	Sarah Hawley	07894 294319
Bentley Community Pub	Kate Spicer	01473 314187
Bentley Comrades	Ray Savage	01473 311122
Bentley Community Stores	Bob Feltwell	01473 310182
Bowls Club	Lillian Calvert	01473 808652
Carpet Bowls	Jill Mills	01473 311103
Case Book Group	Jane Lockwood	01473 311797
Footpath Society	John Wheals	01473 310569
Footpath Warden	Tim Hamstead	07748 821594
Friends of St Mary's	Bob Feltwell	01473 310735
Horticultural Society	Stewart Rowe	01473 311994
Maritime Football Club	Jon Haines	08442 023130
Parent and Toddler Group	Pam Rayment	07970 741581
Recorders	Moir Usher	01473 310322
Scrabble Club	Robin Owen	01473 311844
Tree Warden	Colin Hawes	01473 310678
Tuesday Club	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
	Catherine Sweeney	01473 310095
Village Hall - Bookings	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
	Mark Usher	01473 310322
Village History Recorder	Nicky Moxey	01473 313125
Whist Club	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
Womens Institute	Sandra Ford	01473 310072

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BENTLEY

Rector	Rev'd Chris Willis (from March 2024)	
Benefice Administrator	Michelle Jowers	07955 329341
Benefice email address	constablecountrychurches@outlook.com	
Churchwarden	Peter Day	01473 310518
Assistant Priest	Revd Don Mehen	01473 310383

BENTLEY BAPTIST CHURCH ADMIN 07814 465222

Bentley Parish Council website - <http://bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Bentley (in Suffolk) Community Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292599697915731/>

Other village websites are listed in the publication.

Parish Diary

FEBRUARY 2024

1st - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall 7.30 pm
2nd - Remembrance Service for Margaret and John Blackmore - St Mary's Church at 12
3rd - Suffolk Spiced Fusion - Case is Altered from 5-8 pm
7th & 21st - Whist Drive - Village Hall from 7.30-9.00 pm
7th - Comrades - Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 pm
8th & 22nd - Scrabble Club - Village Hall Committee Room at 2.30 pm
8th - Open Mic Night - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm
10th - Music at the Case - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm
13th & 27th - Tuesday Club - Village Hall at 2.30 pm
14th - Bentley Bluebells WI - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
16th - Bentley Horticultural Society - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
17th - Pop Up Ploughmans - Case is Altered - from 12pm - 2pm
24th - Monthly Quiz - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm
24th - Footpath Society Walk - from the Village Hall at 10.30 am

MARCH 2024

2nd - Wagyu Burgers - Case is Altered from 5-8 pm
6th & 20th - Whist Drive - Village Hall from 7.30-9.00 pm
7th - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
7th - Comrades - Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 pm
12th & 26th - Tuesday Club - Village Hall at 2.30 pm
13th - Bentley Bluebells WI - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
14th - Open Mic Night - Case is Altered at 7.00 pm
14th & 28^h - Scrabble Club - Village Hall Committee Room at 2.30 pm
15th - Bentley Horticultural Society - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
23rd - Footpath Society Walk - from the Village Hall at 10.30 am
23rd - Real Thai Food Hadleigh - Case is Altered from 5-8 pm
23rd - Church Bingo Night - Village Hall from 7.00 pm
30th - Monthly Quiz - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm

Other Activities in the Village

Toddler Group - Mon & Weds 9.30 am to 12 noon (Term Time only) - Village Hall
Holistic Yoga - Every Mon 7.30 - 10.00 pm - Village Hall
Aerobics Class - Tuesday 9.45 am (Term Time only) - Village Hall
Pilates Class - Tuesday 11.00 am to noon (Term Time only) - Village Hall (contact Jill Sharp for information - 01473 311546)
Carpet Bowls - Every Tues 7.30 pm & Weds 2.30 pm - Village Hall
Coffee at the Case - Every Friday between 10.30 and 12.00

BENTLEY VILLAGE AT CHURCH NEWS

We had some lovely services over the Christmas Season. Many thanks to everyone who supported us. Our service rota has not changed at present and we will continue to have weekly services as usual.

Services in February

Sunday 4th February	Morning Worship	10am
Sunday 11th February	Holy Communion	10am
Sunday 18th February	Morning Worship	10am
Sunday 25th February	Holy Communion	10am

Services in March

Sunday 3rd March	Holy Communion	10am
Sunday 10th March	Mothering Sunday	10am
Sunday 17th March	Holy Communion	10am
Sunday 24th March	Palm Sunday	10am
Friday 29th March	Good Friday	10am
Sunday 31st March	Holy Communion	10am

Easter Eggs

We will be collecting Easter Eggs to take to West Villa Homeless Families Unit for the children there. If you would like to help please will you let us have the eggs by Palm Sunday, 24th March.

They can be left at church at Sunday services or at 19 The Link (phone 310383). Thank you.

As many of you know we will soon have a Rector for our new Benefice. We look forward to welcoming Rev'd Chris Willis and his family. He will be licenced on Tuesday 5th March. See page 13 for a quick hello from him.

West Villa

Thank you very much indeed to everyone who supported our appeal for Christmas gifts for the homeless families supported by West Villa. We had gifts of all kind of shapes and sizes and suitable for all ages. The people sorting the gifts were touched by the care taken in selecting suitable gifts for all.

Thank you also for the bedding and towels that are still delivered to our home, they are always needed and always greatly appreciated. Sadly West Villa do not have enough storage to accept large items but bedding and towels are very much appreciated. Please contact me if you have unwanted bedding or towels.

sandramehen@gmail.com or 01473 310383 or leave them in the porch of 19 The Link. Thank you.

Lonely? Need a Listening Ear?

Do you know of anyone in the village who would like a visit at home or in hospital? Would you like someone to visit you? Would you like someone to talk to, pray with you or for you? Please call Doreen or 311122; Carolyn on 311090; Jane 310518; Sandra 310383.

Easter Lilies – Many people like to contribute towards the cost of lilies to decorate Bentley Church for Easter. They are often in memory of a loved one. If you would like a dedication in memory for your loved one please let us know the name or names and let us have them with a donation of £3 per person towards the cost of the lilies by Palm Sunday 2nd March. Sign the list in church or contact Jane – 310518, Doreen – 311122, Carolyn - 311090 or Sandra – 31038. Thank you.

Condolences

We offer our condolences to the families and friends of both Myra Dunn and John Blackmore. Both are people who were active in the village and they will be missed by all who knew them.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

St Mary's Church, Bentley

It costs £300 a week to keep your beautiful and historic church open. One way to support us is by giving via this QR code using your smartphone. There is also a link in the church building. Thank you for your support. It means a great deal to us as we try to keep the Church in good repair.



Just a thought – Christmas is over and the decorations have been taken down and stored for another year. We are heading towards the season of Lent, when decoration in church is minimal and there are no flowers. Lent is the season of the church year that reminds us of all that Jesus did for us.

For those who wonder why Easter moves around each year it is all to do with a synod meeting in 325 CE they decided that Easter would be the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. I suppose that at least it keeps Easter Day on a Sunday. The earliest possible date for Easter is March 22nd and the latest possible date is April 25th. Easter is quite early this year as Easter Day falls on Sunday 31st March.

Church Contact Details

for weddings, baptisms and funerals or other queries

Church Warden – Peter Day - 310518
Assistant Priest – Rev Don Mehen – 310383
Administrator – Michelle Jowers

constablecountrychurches@outlook.com

07955 329341

Treasurer – Ken Felgate - k.felgate108@btinternet.com

[PCC Secretary – Sandra Mehen – 01473 31038](mailto:PCC_Secretary@btinternet.com)

TUESDAY CLUB

Here we are January 2024, we hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas. We held our first meeting of the year on 16th January 2.30pm in the Village Hall, this was our AGM. The Treasurer Veronica and Secretary Catherine presented their reports for the previous year. Just a short recap on the events in December. On 5th December all Members had Christmas Lunch at the George, Hintlesham. Our last meeting of the year 19th December we had our Christmas Party, Mr Smooth entertained us with a variety of Christmas Songs and the Buffet, which all members contributed to, was enjoyed by all. All members left with a gift from the Secret Santa.

In the weeks ahead we have even more interesting speakers and entertainment, there's sure to be something for everyone so please come along. I would like to take a minute to remember Myra Dunn who sadly passed away recently, she had been a regular member of the club for many years and she will be missed by all.

On 13th February we have Bishop & Miller Auction House so if you have any Antiques please bring them along to be valued. On the 27th February we welcome back Frazier who will help us all to lose those extra pounds we gained over Christmas, with a session of Chair Aerobics. On 12th March it is East Anglia Air Ambulance and on 26th March, Lorri & Gray singers.

Finally Veronica and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Catherine Sweeney, Secretary

BENTLEY CARPET BOWLS

The four matches have now been played to complete the first half of the season. The first of these matches saw us travel the short journey to Stutton where we played surprisingly well to come away with a 9-1 win.

Against Martlesham, at home, who are one of the stronger teams in the league, we came out 6-4 winners in a very close & competitive match. Kesgrave were our next opponents and were disappointed to have only 9 players due to people watching Ipswich Town on TV. However after a somewhat muddled start we eventually ran out 9 -1 winners.

The final match against our friends from East Bergholt saw us lose our unbeaten record. On what was a very challenging playing surface, which we didn't come to terms with, we lost 2 - 8. Although we won the 2nd leg of the Joe Rice cup versus Bramford we didn't win well enough, owing to our big defeat away, so we will now go into the plate competition. It is all to play for in the 2nd half of the season.

David Howe

BENTLEY BOWLS CLUB

The season will soon be upon us. The green is looking good after all the work Colin and his helpers have done during the closed months. We will be playing in the Samford Division on Monday evenings and the Ipswich and District triples league on Wednesday evenings.

We are a small village team which has been going for over 100 years and we could do with some new members to keep the club going, so why not think about joining us? We will start our games at the end of April - beginning May. The green will open in April so anyone who is thinking of joining us can come and have a roll up.

Our quiz this year is on 4th May in the Village Hall. As our long serving quizmaster Charles has retired, the questions are being set by Bill and Simon, this should be interesting!! We shall have our usual buffet, bar and raffle. Tickets will be on sale later.

Lillian Calvert Secretary 01473 808652

BENTLEY (SUFFOLK) HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

As I write this entry we have had snow this morning, rain this afternoon and now at 3.20pm it's getting dark – roll on the spring when we can but hope for better. However there are many much worse off with their homes flooded and not for the first time.

The Ukulele Band was very entertaining and enjoyed at our December meeting.

The forthcoming meetings are:

19th January Michael Bamford will present a talk and film show
"The mountains and Kalash People of North Pakistan"

16th February Adrian Bleese will talk and show a film
"Above the Law". He was an observer in a Police helicopter.

The meetings are held in the Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come and join us. Thoughts for the future of a horticultural variety!

Places to see snowdrops

Fullers Mill Garden at West Stow near Bury St Edmunds. This a lovely garden and the spring flowers are beautiful - it opens on 2nd February at 11am. Details and photographs can be seen on the website. The postcode is IP28 6HD

Blakenham Woodland Garden at Little Blakenham IP8 4LZ is also well known for the large number of different varieties of snowdrops. Opening times have not yet been published. Snowdrops can also be seen at **Ickworth and Kentwell Hall**.

Pam Lovell

BENTLEY BLUEBELLS WI

Our January talk on recycling by Sara Clark was most instructive and interesting. We all learnt a lot more about our blue bins and their ultimate destination of their contents.

Our next talk in March will be all about Cardinal Wolsey Untold Story.

In April, we will be celebrating our 75th anniversary. Please see invitation to Bentley Village.

Ladies, we are always open to new members. For more information, please contact our secretary Sandra, on 01473 310072. **Isabelle Quinlan**

BENTLEY BLUEBELLS WI

CORDIALLY INVITE THE MEMBERS OF

BENTLEY VILLAGE

TO AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

TO CELEBRATE OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL

ON WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL 2024 AT 7.00 PM

TICKETS ARE £5.00 pp payable at the door

And we would like to include spouses and partners

Please confirm numbers by Wed 13th March to help with catering.

RSVP Theresa Bloomfield tcb2710@hotmail.co.uk

NEWS FROM BENTLEY & COPDOCK PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Bentley Primary 01473 310253
admin@bentley.suffolk.sch.uk

Copdock Primary 01473 730337
admin@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk

<http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk/>



January sees the children returning to their learning and starting to enjoy the onset of spring. We have started new clubs in school with ITFC Foundation and Premier Education encouraging an active start to the week. Town are delivering our PE lessons going forward, and providing a multi-sport club to help us focus on the exciting events coming up. Whilst Premier are introducing a gymnastics club for the younger children.

This term we have started to interact with other schools in events such as dodgeball and tag rugby after half term. KS1 children are due to be treated to a drama workshop whilst some of our year 3 & 4 children will be attending a computational workshop delivered by BT at St Joseph's College. Our relationship with the local police liaison continues to develop with regular visits into school.

Bentley CEVC Primary School

100 club

Congratulations to the winners

December 2023

January 2024

1st - Abi Minter

1st - Ken Felgate

2nd - Mrs Buis

2nd - Shelly Rickford

3rd - Gary Daynes

3rd - Ali Nye

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

49 people attended the dance held on the 31st December 2023 in Bentley Village Hall. Everyone enjoyed the evening with music provided by the G & H Disco.

A raffle was held with all proceeds from the evening, totalling £292.00, going to Blue Cross in memory of Margaret Blackmore and Ipswich Hospital Charity Diabetic Department in memory of John Blackmore. These dances were originally organised by John and Margaret together with Gordan and Hilary.

David & Veronica Howe

POP UP PLOUGHMAN'S AT THE CASE

To brighten the dull days until spring we are holding another of our popular

PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHES AT THE CASE PUB on SATURDAY 17th FEBRUARY FROM 12pm - 2pm

As well as our famous ploughman's there will be a hot pudding,
Tea and Coffee

Price £10 per person payable at the lunch

You will need to book your place and a list can be found in the
Community Shop.

Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment !!

To all the kind family and friends

who made my 'significant' birthday such a lovely occasion

Very many thanks

Sandra (Mehen)

FUNERAL AND REMEMBRANCE SERVICE FOR JOHN AND MARGARET BLACKMORE

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY AT 12.00 PM

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

There will be an official naming ceremony of the Committee
Room to name it the 'Blackmore Room' in recognition of the
commitment and hard work that John and Margaret put in to the
Village Hall.

BENTLEY VILLAGE AT CHURCH NEWS

Here is quick hello from our new Rector –



A happy new year to you all. With Christmas now over, and the New Year arrived, my wife Rachel and I are very much preparing for, and looking forward to moving from Colchester, where I am currently assisting at St. Johns Church, to come to the newly formed Benefice (church speak for a group of churches) of Bentley, Brantham, East Bergholt and Tattingstone.

We shall be living at the Rectory in Brantham, but very much want to be involved in the life of the wider communities. It is my hope to be regularly visible in the villages. So please, feel completely welcome to say hi if you see me out and about. (I'll be the tall bald bloke with the clerical collar!)

The great thing about parish churches is that they are in effect everyone's church – whether we enter them or not! And at the same time, the local Rector is charged with the [spiritual] care of everyone in the community. Of course, I am just one person, but I know there is already a considerable amount of commitment and hard work being given by many, mostly volunteers, in the four parish churches, as they seek to live out faith in Jesus. But for my part, I really look forward to meeting and exploring with those who want to find out more of what it means to be a Christian. Especially exploring in ways where there is no pressure, such as the wonderful 'Alpha Courses'.

A bit about me: I love walking, cycling, and if I can do it on a budget, skiing. I also like playing the drums (although I rarely get the chance now), and guitar. For several years, I was a Scout leader, and a church youth leader – and particularly want younger members of the community to find a welcome place in the local church. I wasn't ordained until in my 50's, as I'd spent thirty years in the Police, retiring as a Police Inspector, having spent most of my service in community policing.

As a Church leader, I have a simple belief that every person has an inherent need for Jesus. Some people have referred to that as a God shaped hole. And we can be really good at trying to fill that hole with all sorts of other things. But ultimately, only one thing – or one person - is the right fit, and that, for all of us, is Jesus.

But whatever your view, faith, or none, I very much look forward to meeting you, and Rachel and I are also very much looking forward to being part of the communities.

God bless you.

Rev'd Chris Willis

WILDLIFE NOTES

Things that go Boo in the Night

Apart from the benefits of dark skies, another pleasure of our country life can be our quiet nights, although noises made by traffic and emergency vehicles are getting increasingly intrusive. The quiet can allow us to hear the wildlife sounds of the dark. Much bird 'watching' can be done by ear. Owls are the obvious example. The familiar 'Keewik' – Hooo-hoo' from the Female and Male Tawny owls respectively are commonly heard at this time of year, as territories are being established. The shrill yelp of the Little owl is less often heard, as the population is falling. The creaking hiss of the Barn owl gives us its alternative name of the Screech owl. All these can be heard in Bentley. Further afield the churring of Nightjars, in the dusk, is a joy to hear in Heath and Breckland as are the trilling calls of Stone curlews.



Barn Owl

The night migration of birds can be detected by their calls. The very high pitched 'Tseep' of Redwings on the move is a sign that Autumn migration is on its way. One of the unexpected benefits of the Covid lockdowns was that Scoter ducks – Sea ducks that winter in the North Sea were tracked in their Spring and Autumn migration overland between the North Sea and Irish waters, by the flight calls which observers could hear and record more easily, passing over in the absence of noise pollution.

The jewel in Bentley's crown is the song of the Nightingale. We have lost some territories over the years, but still, we can hear in the middle of an April or May night, the song of the Nightingale from a thicket at the wood's edge, in several places in the village.

WILDLIFE NOTES

Some mammals of the night are familiar – with the yelping of Foxes or the atonal barking of Muntjac deer, which can drive dogs mad. Less likely to be heard is the squealing and grunting of a Badger. Those that are lucky enough to have Hedgehogs in the garden, helping control slugs and snails, may hear them grunting and snuffling in the undergrowth. Although Bat sounds are mainly above the human audible range some clicking sounds may be heard. A bat detector translates some of their very high-pitched echolocation sounds into an audible signal and can give clues as to the species responsible.



On a still summer's evening, you may hear the 'cheeps' of Grasshoppers. UK Crickets are usually silent at night, but the most worrisome sound at night, for the owners of our older buildings is the ticking of the Death watch beetle in old timbers.

Above all, there is much to learn and nothing to be fearful of the sounds of the night. We must protect our dark and quiet places.

Michael Bamford



Badger and 3 cubs recorded on infrared video camera in Bentley

LINK LUNCH

At the final link lunch 43 diners enjoyed the traditional Christmas fair of roast turkey and all the trimmings followed by Christmas pudding and cream, tea and coffee with mince pies and mints.



The last three lunches of October, November and December raised a further £660.00 which we donated £330.00 to Headway Suffolk and £330.00 to St. Elizabeth Hospice.

Link Lunches ran for 18 years raising over £17,300.00 for various charities.

Many thanks to all the helpers and to all the people who supported us over the last 18 years.

Veronica Howe



Thank you to the volunteers!

NOTES FROM THE CASE



Suffolk's first Co-operative Pub!

Tel: 01473 805575

<http://www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCaseBentley/>

email: chair@thecasepubbentley.co.uk



We hope that 2024 will be an exciting year for the Case is Altered. In just a few weeks time we will be celebrating our 10th anniversary. Ten years ago on 18 February 2014 we were handed the keys to The Case. There then followed a frantic program of clearing, cleaning, painting, restoration and redecoration, all carried out by scores of volunteers from within the community. Then on 17 April 2014 (Maundy Thursday) we opened for business as the first co-operative pub in Suffolk! What a night that was! So this year we really have something to celebrate and we hope you will be able to join us for some of our planned celebration events.

Open Mic Nights

Each month our Open Mic Night continues to attract new performers. It is held on the **second Thursday** of each month. The bar opens at 6pm; the music will start around 8pm. All are welcome whether you are a performer or simply there to listen and watch. For more information contact Dave on 07885 963882. The next two dates are **Thursday 8 February and Thursday 14 March**.

Music at The Case

February sees the return of more live music to the Case! On **Saturday 10 February**, to warm the chilly days of winter, we have the well known local band Saving Grace performing for us. The band starts around 8pm. We will be staying open a little longer than usual and last orders will be at 10:45pm. For more information closer to the date please see posters around the pub and on our website and Facebook page.

Ploughman's Lunch

On **Saturday 17 February between 12 noon and 2pm** we are holding another of our Ploughman's lunches with a hot dessert, plus tea or coffee. All profits will go to our charity of the year, Ipswich and East Suffolk Samaritans. To help us to gauge numbers please sign up at Bentley Stores. Price is £10 per person, payable at the lunch. Places are limited.

Quiz Nights

Our monthly Quiz Nights are held on the **last Saturday of the month** and are extremely popular. Test your knowledge against our quiz master. £2 entry per person, maximum team size 6. The winning team receives tokens to spend at the pub; the lowest scoring team get a wooden spoon! If you would like to set a quiz, contact Chris at cottage.garden@btinternet.com and we'll add you to the list. **The next quiz is on Saturday 24 February and the following month it is Saturday 30 March**,

Street Food Vendors

We have now finalised our plans to have at least one Street Food Vendor every month in 2024! On **Saturday 3 February** we welcome back **Suffolk Spiced Fusion**, with their northern Indian cuisine. Then in March we have return visits from two of our popular food stalls. On **Saturday 2 March**, **Wagyu Burgers** will be here serving their very highly rated burgers and sides. Later in the month on **Saturday 23 March** we have **Real Thai Food in Hadleigh** with their super authentic Thai food. See our website or Facebook page for more information closer to the dates. **All food will be served between 5pm and 8pm. The pub will be open from 6pm.** Food can be eaten in the pub from 6pm. If you wish to, please bring your own cutlery. (All vendors supply responsibly sourced or recyclable cutlery and containers). Families are welcome.

Games Nights

Saturdays during the winter months, when there are no other planned events are deemed games nights. So do come along with friends or family for some light hearted fun. We do have some games which can be used or bring your own. If you have any games that you would like to donate please speak to one of the bar volunteers. Only complete games please.

Coffee at the Case

Our new Friday coffee mornings have already proved to be very popular. You may have seen, on social media, the recent photograph taken with our local PC, Kate who made a visit during our first meeting. If you fancy a hot drink and perhaps a biscuit or two, why not come along and join our friendly group. The log burner will be on, keeping us all warm and toasty.

Christmas Raffle

Finally we'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to all who bought tickets for our first Christmas Raffle. The raffle was in aid of our charity of the year, Ipswich and East Suffolk Samaritans. **Ticket sales and donations raised an incredible £826.** So once again thank you for your support for this very worthy cause.

We hope to see you soon!



The Scrabble Club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

If you would like a gentle game of Scrabble, a cup of tea or coffee and a chat please come along and join us.

Dates of the meetings are shown on the Bugle diary page. **Robin Owen**

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Bentley Parish Council Meeting took place at Bentley Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 4 January 2024.

Eight Councillors, County Councillor Georgia Hall, District Councillor Dave Busby, Tree Warden, Speedwatch Co-ordinator and 4 members of the public attended the meeting.

Planning – Five planning decisions were received. One Planning Re-Consultation application was received – Councillors Recommended Approval. Brockley Wood application – Site meeting took place on 15 December with 40 residents in attendance – application was deferred at SCC Committee meeting on 19 December – Re-consultation Period is to take place. Application re Solar Farm – will be discussed at 1 February Parish Council Meeting – following the Public Meeting on 11 January 2024.

Reports were received from County Councillor Georgia Hall, Tree Warden, Footpath Warden and Speedwatch Co-Ordinator.

Matters discussed:

- Transfer of land to Bentley Parish Council by SCC – Play Area, School Playing Field & Copse
- Call for Land for Nature Recovery – Copse could be considered as a project
- Hedge on Footpath 40.
- Draft Budget was reviewed and agreed.
- Precept was set at £15K & form signed.
- Affordable Housing
- 20's Plenty Campaign
- Traffic calming – SID is back at Highfields
- Playing Field Society – Grass cutting of the Play & Gym areas

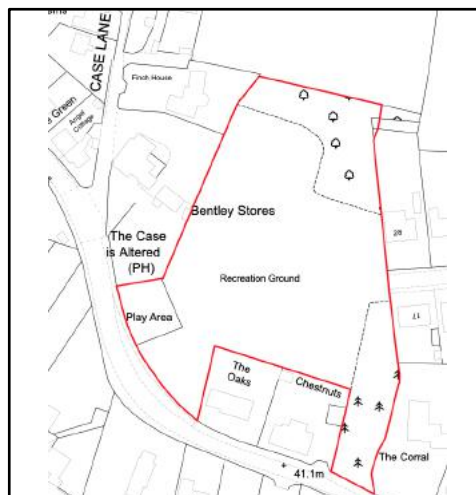
The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m. Full draft minutes are available on the P C website - <http://bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Land transferred to the ownership of Bentley Parish Council

Bentley Parish Council are pleased to confirm that the School Playing Field, Play Area and Copse have been transferred to Bentley Parish Council by Suffolk County Council at no value.

There is a covenant that the School Field will continue to be used as a school playing field and Jon Haines from Maritime FC will continue to use the field under licence to us under the same terms that he had with the school.

Joy Scott, Clerk Bentley Parish Council



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

BROCKLEY WOOD QUARRY

SCC/0105/22B Brockley Wood Land off A12 Belstead Suffolk IP8 3JS

Extraction, processing and sale of sand and gravel, processing of inert waste materials with associated plant and related sales, access works, phased restoration using inert recovered materials and aftercare plan.

Following the site visit on 15th December attended by councillors, officers and residents, the applicant has made changes to the proposals by removing the concrete batching element of the plans. In view of the changes, Suffolk County Council have re-consulted with the Parish Council and other consultees. Bentley Parish Council will be discussing and agreeing their response to the changed plans at our meeting on 1st February. Suffolk County Council will be making the decision on this application.

SOLAR FARM

DC/23/05656 Land at Grove Farm & Land East of the Railway Line

Construction of photovoltaic Solar Array, Ancillary Infrastructure, DNO Substation, Customer Substation, Grid Connection & Landscaping

The Parish Council held an open public meeting on Thursday 11th January. The purpose of the meeting was to give an overview of the proposals and an open forum for discussion. The plans had changed since the original consultation in 2022 and so a presentation was given using information from the submitted planning documents.

Villagers had the opportunity to ask questions and make comments. Both District Councillors, Dave Busby and Helen Davies were present and Bron Curtis the Senior Planning Officer for Infrastructure Projects from Babergh District Council attended the meeting remotely. She listened to comments and answered questions and said she found the meeting very helpful. Full draft minutes are available on the PC website - <http://bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Following the meeting a letter was issued to all households in the village to give an account of that meeting. This letter gave villagers maps of the proposal and details of how to submit their own comments to Babergh District Council by 31st January 2024.

The Parish Council will be discussing and deciding on their recommendation to Babergh on Thursday 1st February.

The decision on the planning application rests with Babergh District Council.

Joy Scott,
Clerk Bentley Parish Council

BENTLEY STORES

New Year New Volunteering Opportunities !

Bentley Stores has a wonderful team of volunteers and we would like a few more to join us in 2024 to cover holidays and the occasional illnesses!

Quite a few people have joined the village in the last year or so and we would be pleased if they could spare just a couple of hours every week or two, the work is interesting and training is available.

Volunteering has many benefits and is well worth trying.

It is surprising how many people you meet in the shop so if you know anyone who may like a change give us a call on 01473 310735 or email

info@bentleystores.co.uk

Or best of all just drop in to the shop !!

New Larger Shopping Bags available.....

When you buy your new Community shop bag, did you know you are buying a piece of history?

Every bag has been individually hand-printed on a unique lever-pull press which is over 180 years old. Known as the Ransomes Queen Press, this wonderful piece of kit is found at the Food Museum in Stowmarket. It was designed and built by Ransomes of Ipswich in the mid-1840s and was named for the young Queen Victoria. 20 were made, but this is believed to be the only one still in existence.

Each bag is individually printed, which as you may imagine is a slow process, but it means each one is unique. Wooden letters (some over 100 years old) are locked into a metal frame and ink applied with a hand roller. Pressure is applied via the lever and the type applied to the bag, which is then left to dry. It's a process Gutenberg would have recognised back in the 15th century.

The hard slog this involves was often carried out by apprentices, and nothing changes! We are grateful to the printers and their two apprentices for the efforts they put in, and to the Food Museum (<https://foodmuseum.org.uk>) for the use of the press. If you visit the museum, please admire the Ransomes press which stands in the shop as you go in. You may even find one of the printers in residence.

So when you use your new Bentley Stores bags, spare a thought for the low tech involved in their printing and Happy Shopping!

Opening hours.

We are open weekdays 9 to 1.30, Saturdays 9 to 12 and Sundays 9 to 11.

CAPEL ST MARY LIBRARY

Capel Library offers you **A Warm Welcome.** Please pop along to the library for a warm drink and some friendly faces this winter.

The Friends of Capel Library Community Cinema

February's film: Battle Over Britain

March's film: The Miracle Club

The Friends of Capel Library
Community Cinema



Tuesday 20th February 2024 at Capel Library

Doors Open: 7pm, film Starts: 7.30pm

Tickets in advance: £4.50 members, £5 non-members

On the door: £5.50

Fully Licensed Bar & Air Conditioning

**SUFFOLK
LIBRARIES**

The Friends of Capel Library
Community Cinema



Tuesday 19th March 2024 at Capel Library

Doors Open: 7pm, film Starts: 7.30pm

Tickets in advance: £4.50 members, £5 non-members

On the door: £5.50

Fully Licensed Bar & Air Conditioning

**SUFFOLK
LIBRARIES**

Battle Over Britain - During the height of the Battle of Britain, a Flight of exhausted Spitfire pilots fight to the last man in defence of their country.

The Miracle Club - Three close friends who have never left the outskirts of Dublin (much less Ireland) get the journey of a lifetime — a visit to Lourdes, the picturesque French town and place of miracles.

A date for your diary – 21st February 2024 – Build a Bug or Bird Box

The Friends of Capel Library will be hosting a build a bug or bird box session in the library. Tickets will be on sale in January. Please see our Facebook page or pop into the library.

Home Library Service

Do you or someone you know struggle to get to the library? We have volunteers ready and waiting who can bring the books to you. Just give us a call at the library and we can discuss how the service can benefit you, a friend, neighbour or loved one.

Regular Events in the Library:

- **Tot Rock & Stay & Play:** Thursdays during term time 9.30 onwards; songs, and stories followed by a more social play session with free refreshments.
- **Minecraft:** Children of all ages welcome and those under eight must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring with you your tablet or phone equipped with Minecraft Pocket Edition or Minecraft Windows 10 Edition. Try to remember to charge your device beforehand! Contact the library for more details.
- **Lego:** Every 4th Saturday we hold our Monthly Lego Club. It is £1.50 per child which includes a drink and a biscuit. Each month has a theme, but you can also build what you like. At the end of the session a prize is given to the most creative build, as voted for by fellow creators. So, join us 10.30-12.00 for some building fun.
- **Sunday Crafts** is every week from 10.30 to 12.30. All children & families welcome, no booking is required and there is no charge. Come and get crafty at Capel Library.

Don't forget we sell cards, stamps and book tokens.

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Monday:	Closed	Friday:	2.00pm-5.30pm
Tuesday:	9am-12.30 & 2.00pm-5.30pm	Saturday:	9.00am-3.00pm
Wednesday:	9am-12.30	Sunday:	10.00am-3.00pm
Thursday:	9am-12.30		

Telephone: 01473 311699

e-mail: capel.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk

Web: www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

THE FRIENDS OF CAPEL LIBRARY

The Friends of Capel Library 100 Club

December Draw results

Special Draw £20 each

£25 Lynne Hinkins

Carol Lidford

£10 John Mellish

Isla Budgen

£5 Lynn Knowler

Lisa Matthews

£5 Caroline Alder

The draws for January and February will take place in the beginning of February

Thank you and a Happy New Year to all. **Bob Perkin**

BENTLEY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?
... (Matthew 16v26)

What would you do if you had vast wealth? You could enjoy a life of great comfort, luxury, possessions, excitement and ease.

However, all these things are temporary, and when your life is over, will mean nothing to you. Far more valuable is your soul, which will live forever in one of two places - heaven or hell.

The only way to heaven is to believe and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, and receive that full and free salvation in Him, with an eternity of joy to come. "... in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." (Psalm 16v11)

The alternative is an eternity of torment in the other place... "the fire that shall never be quenched" (Mark 9v43)

Do not set your heart upon the riches of this world, which will perish, but seek after the Lord Jesus Christ, who has all riches to bestow upon those who love Him.

Weekly Services

Prayer and Bible Study – Tuesdays 7pm

Worship Services – Sundays 10.45am and 3pm

For further information (or for a FREE Bible (King James version)), please do get in touch:

Tel. Admin: 07814 465222 www.bentley-reformed-baptist.uk

e-mail: admin@bentley-reformed-baptist.uk

Or find us on Facebook.

FOOTPATH SOCIETY

Saturday 24th February

Walk no. 5 from the Village Hall - meeting at 10.30 - 5.4 miles - 6 stiles and stout shoes please.

Saturday 23rd March

Walk no. 6 from the Village Hall meeting at 10.30am - 5 miles - no stiles and boots or stout shoes.

Keep warm and hydrated.

John Wheals. 01473 310569.



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To Timber

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TRADERS

Advice column

I've built up a bit of debt and I am panicking. Even though I cut back, Christmas was expensive, my rent has gone up and my paycheque just doesn't stretch as far as it used to. I'm doing everything I can but it's not enough - what can I do?



**Sudbury
& South Suffolk**

First of all, it's important to know you're not alone in finding things difficult and, crucially, there's support available.

You say you've built up a bit of debt. The first step is to collect all the information you have about your debts, this might include contracts, bills and statements.

Next, make a list of your debts and write down the details of each. This could include whom you owe the money to (this person/company is your 'creditor'); when you first missed a payment; and how much you now owe. You'll also need to make a note of your account or reference number and what steps the creditor has taken to get the money back, e.g. sending you letters.

It might feel overwhelming when you see all of your debts written down - but try not to worry, the important thing is that you're sorting them out.

If you're behind on household bills, prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council Tax first. Not paying these bills has the most serious consequences. You should speak to the person or company you owe money to, to see if there are any manageable steps you can take to start reducing your debt.

Once you've got these debts under control, you should look at any other debts like credit card or store card debts, payday loans or missed Buy Now Pay Later payments.

While you're looking at the money going out, do remember to consider money that could be coming in. It's always worth checking if there are any benefits that you're eligible for, including support with your energy costs and living costs. There's a benefits calculator, advice on how to reduce living costs and information on other ways to increase your income, on the Citizens Advice website, www.citizensadvice.org.uk

There's also emergency support that you may be able to access, such as a food bank or fuel vouchers.

You could also contact your local council to see if they can offer support. We know that times are incredibly tough but please remember, you don't have to face this alone, do contact Citizens Advice to help you find a way forward.

For more information visit the Citizens Advice website at www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call Sudbury and South Suffolk Citizens Advice on 01787 321400 and leave a message and someone will call you back when available. We will attempt three times to call you back, so please expect a call from a withheld number. Alternatively, contact us via email at advice@sudburycab.org.uk or by using the contact facility on our website, <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact>

We are providing advice by telephone and email Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm.

COFFEE MORNING AT THE CASE

The first Coffee Morning at the Case was held on Friday 5th January when our local PC, Kate popped in to say hello. Coffee Mornings are every Friday from 10.30 am to 12.00.



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